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Message Text

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53
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00

IO-15 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 /120 W
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P 131000Z OCT 73
FM USINT CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3990
INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINR EG IS
SUBJECT: PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION IN EGYPT AFTER ONE WEEK OF WAR (OCTOBER 12)

USINT TRANSMITS REPORTS ON PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION IN EGYPT AFTER ONE WEEK OF WAR WRITTEN BY TWO USIS EMPLOYEES AS REPRESENTATIVE OF EDUCATED EGYPTIAN OPINION MOULDERS REGARDING THE WAR:

A. CULTURAL ADVISOR

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION
THE EGYPTIANS ARE CONFIDENT THIS TIME THE WAR IS IN THEIR FAVOR AND EVERY PASSING DAY IS ALSO IN THEIR FAVOR. THEY ARE--WITH THE SYRIANS--BLEEDING, BUT THE ISRAELIS ALSO ARE BLEEDING AND LOSING A GOOD PART OF THEIR FORCES AND AIRPLANES. THE DIFFERENCE IN THE TWO
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CASES IS THAT THE ISRAELIS CANNOT AFFORD LOSING TOO

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MUCH BLOOD. THE LOSSES ON THE EGYPTIAN SIDE ARE VERY LITTLE. THE CROSSING OF THE CANAL COST THEM THE MINIMUM OF LIVES. THE MORALE IS VERY HIGH AMONG THE MILITARY FORCES AND THE CIVILIANS. THEY HAVE CONFIDENCE AND BELIEVE IN EGYPTIAN NEWS MEDIA RELEASES ABOUT WAR DEVELOPMENTS. MORALE IS ALSO HIGH BECAUSE ALL THE ARABS ARE UNITED AND MOST OF THE WORLD IS ON THEIR SIDE. THEY ARE PROUD AND THEIR HEADS ARE HIGH. THEY ARE AWARE THAT THE HUMULIATION OF SIX YEARS IS ENDED AND IS RE-PLACED BY RESPECT.

THE US AND THE WAR

AMONG HEADLINES OF OCTOBER 12 PAPERS, US IS GIVING ISRAEL 48 PHANTOMS AT ONE TIME, AND THE DOORS OF AMERICAN ARMS STORES IN THE STATES AND EUROPE ARE OPEN FOR ISRAEL.

BEFORE THIS NEWS THERE WERE MANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH MADE THE ARABS BELIEVE FULL SUPPORT OF US TO ISRAEL:

US CONGRESS SUPPORT FOR THE ISRAELI SIDE;
SECURITY COUNCIL PROPOSAL ABOUT WITHDRAWAL OF MILITARY FORCES TO OCTOBER 6TH LINES.

UNDER DIRECTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT, VERY LITTLE APPEARED AGAINST THE US. HOWEVER, IF NEWS ABOUT THE ARMS SUPPLY TO ISRAEL IS CONFIRMED AND ALLOWED TO BE DISCUSSED OPENLY, THE FEELINGS AGAINST US AND ITS OBJECTIVES IN M.E. WILL GROW WORSE.

B. CULTURAL ASSISTANT

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION

NO MATTER WHAT THE OUTCOME OF THE MIDEAST WAR IS, EGYGYRE CONFIDENT AND THEIR HEADS ARE HELD HIGH. EGYPTIANS ARE CONFIDENT AND PROUD: CONFIDENT AND PROUD OF THEIR COUNTRY, OF THEIR PRESIDENT, AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, CONFIDENT AND PROUD OF THEIR ARMY AND THEMSELVES. THE MYTH OF ISRAEL THE SUPERIOR, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

THE UNBEATABLE, THE UNTOUCHABLE HAS NOW VANISHED INTO THIN AIR. THE EGYPTIANS HAVE CROSSED THE CANAL, AND HAVE GIVEN ISRAEL A LESSEN THAT SHE WILL NEVER FORGET, AND ONCE AGAIN EGYPTIAN TERRITORY IS IN EGYPTIAN HANDS. EGYPTIAN TODAY ARE READY TO SACRIFICE EVERYTHING AND MANY REALIZE THAT THE BATTLE MIGHT BE A LONG AND FIERCE ONE AND THAT IT IS NOT A BATTLE OF HOURS OR DAYS. OCTO-BER 6TH, 1973 IS DIFFERENT FROM JUNE 5TH, 1967; VERY

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MUCH DIFFERENT, AND THE ARAB COUNTRIES IN 1973 ARE VERY MUCH DIFFERENT THAN THE ARAB COUNTRIES IN 1967.

AS THE ARMY HAS BEENORGANIZED AND EFFECTIVE IN CROSSING THE CANAL, SO HAS THE MASS MEDIA BEEN EFFECTIVE, ORGANIZED, AND NOT EMOTIONAL. THIS HAS BEEN REFLECTED ON THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE WHO ARE HAPPY BUT NOT EMOTIONAL, PROUD BUT WATCHFUL, READY TO SACRIFICE AND NOT SCARED. THERE IS CONFIDENCE, AND MORALE IS HIGH, AND THERE IS A DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE FIGHTING UNTIL ISRAEL WITHDRAWS FROM THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN JUNE 1967.

THE US AND THE WAR

SINCE THE WAR STARTED, EGYPTIANS HAVE BEEN WATCHING AMERICA'S STAND. MANY EGYPTIANS WHEN HEARING ABOUT AMERICA'S REQUEST TO STOP THE FIGHTING AND RETURN TO THE CEASE-FIRE LINES OF OCTOBER 6, WERE SURPRISED, ASKING WHERE WAS THE LOGIC BEHIND AMERICA'S REQUEST; DO THEY WANT US TO GIVE BACK OUR LAND*

LATER THE PRESS REPORTED THAT THE US HAS MOVED IN AN ATTEMPT TO CONSOLIDATE ISRAEL BY SENDING MORE PHANTOMS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT. THERE IS A FEELING HERE THAT THE AMERICANS BY DOING THIS ARE SUBJECTING THEMSELVES TO GREATER HATRED AND THAT THEY WILL BE PAYING A DEAR PRICE FOR THEIR CONTINUING FULL SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAIRO03079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731034/aaaaayxf.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <04-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION IN EGYPT AFTER ONE WEEK OF WAR (OCTOBER 12)
TAGS: PINR, EG, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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